



CALPEEK

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CA ECONOMIC SUMMIT: HYPE OR SUBSTANCE???

Editor's note: Assembly Speaker Willie Brown's sponsorship of the **Calif. Economic Summit**, Feb. 16-17 at the Biltmore Hotel in L.A., is a risky venture, politically speaking. The stakes are very high. Here is our report and analysis...

...While the object of this two day event is to build a "new kind of dialogue" in Calif. about the condition of the State's economy, the business community is divided on whether the CES will really accomplish much. More than that, there is a considerable amount of animosity aimed at Speaker Willie Brown and his colleagues in the State Legislature --- especially Demos in the State Assembly...

...Some Demo sources are very worried that the CES could turn into a 2-day **trash and bash** session, with Demos being on the receiving end of numerous complaints that they are responsible for creating an anti-business climate in Calif. This view is not totally shared by all CALPEEK sources, but it is a concern, especially since the CES will have *massive amounts* of news media coverage --- including live TV...

...What will be the main items of interest? Most business leaders want to discuss **workers' comp reform** and **regulatory law reform** --- items they feel are the chief causes of CA's economic decline. And this is where the business community is divided. Some leaders have moderate expectations that the CES will be successful. Others say they'll wait and see how the Legislature responds...

...But there are some business leaders who think the CES is a waste of time. One leader in L.A. told CALPEEK, "Why should we believe the Legislature will do anything, especially on workers' comp? Nothing happened after the Ueberroth Commission made its findings known and

nothing happened after the Assembly Democratic Economic Prosperity Team made its report. Lots of PR, but no action."

...Will the CES be a success? CALPEEK will give its assessment after the conference. But one thing is certain: the Speaker has put a great deal of time and effort into planning this event, so it should be worth watching...

...FYI: Demo Assemblyman Richard Katz(D-Sepulveda) wanted to hold a pre-CES get together with Valley business leaders and the other legislators who represent the San Fernando Valley. Sources say business leaders were hot for this idea and VICA, the Valley Industry & Commerce Assn., agreed to co-host. Assemblywoman Paula Boland(R) was up for it, but Katz scrubbed it when Assemblymembers Terry Friedman(D), Barbara Friedman(D) and Burt Margolin(D) all refused to attend. Why? Because just before the election VICA took out ads in the Daily News and L.A. Times urging voters to reject this trio of Demos. Stay tuned...

L.A. MAYOR'S RACE: WITH 60 DAYS TO GO, WOO STILL HAS A COMMANDING LEAD OVER THE FIELD.

Editor's note: Three different polls all point to the same thing: L.A. Councilman Michael Woo is the front-runner in this huge field of candidates who want to replace retiring Mayor Tom Bradley on April 20th. Here is our update & analysis...

...Here are the results of the L.A. Times poll, which was released Feb. 5. The sample size was 1,628, but only 1,149 were registered voters. The poll was conducted by phone from Jan. 28 to Feb. 2...

Michael Woo	20%
Joel Wachs	8%
Nate Holden	6%

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Richard Riordan	4%
Richard Katz	3%
Ernani Bernardi	2%
Julian Nava	2%
Linda Griego	2%
Tom Houston	2%
Stan Sanders	1%
Nick Patsouras	-
Undecided or other	50%

...What this means is that the race is still wide open and that Woo could still slip, especially if his rivals ever decide to REALLY open up. There have been some minor shots fired, but nothing very damaging so far. The LAT data also supports the findings of the poll by Stan Sanders, which suggests that while Woo has a commanding lead (27% in the Sanders poll), the depth of support is fairly shallow...

...What about the other challengers? The new LAT poll also suggests Demo Assemblyman Richard Katz and businessman Richard Riordan had better get with it if they are to end up in a runoff with Woo --- especially Riordan, who has spent a small fortune to qualify a term limits initiative for city officials. Riordan's name and photo were plastered all over several mass mailings, and yet even with a motherhood issue like term limits, he's still at only 4% in terms of support...

...As for Katz, he has promised his supporters that he will become much more aggressive in promoting his candidacy. With 53% name ID and only 3% support, time is working against Katz. In terms of Councilmembers Joel Wachs and Nate Holden, Wachs stands to benefit if Katz fails to move up, both in the Valley and with Jewish voters. Wachs has 71% name ID and some sources believe he may be higher than the 8% shown in the LAT poll. Some believe he could be as high as 15%. Holden, with 84% name ID and 6% support, is one of two *wild cards* in this contest. He's a savvy street fighter when it comes to politics, but these unproved allegations of sexual harassment by former female staffers have hurt. More next week. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S EASY REFERENCE GUIDE IN APRIL.

We've had lots of inquiries about when CALPEEK plans to produce a new **Easy Reference Guide**. The answer is very soon. We plan to have it ready in mid-April...

CALPEEK'S EARLY LINEUP FOR THE '94 CAMPAIGN.

Editor's note: Last week CALPEEK looked over the lineups for all the State Constitutional offices *except* State Insurance Commissioner and State Superintendent of Public Instruction. We'll look at these office this week...

- **Insurance Commissioner** - Most CALPEEK sources believe incumbent IC John Garamendi(D) will be running for governor in 1994 - if he's still in CA. Given this situation, one would think there might be a number of potential candidates testing the waters. However, that's not the case. State Sen. Art Torres(D-L.A.) has said he's going to run, but that's it on the Demo side. Walter Zelman, who worked for Garamendi until very recently, is out of the picture, and so is State Sen. Tom Hayden(D-L.A.). Ditto TV/radio commentator Bill Press, who wants to become chair of the Calif. Demo Party. Another 1990 Demo IC candidate, attorney Ray Bourhis of S.F., told CALPEEK he's leaning against it too. On the GOP side, 1990 IC candidate Wes Bannister is running. Another potential GOP candidate is Gov. Wilson's insurance adviser, Marjorie Berte. Lots of great issues --- pay at the pump no-fault auto insurance, health care reform, workers' comp --- all hot issues, so this is no easy job...

- **State Schools Chief** - With Bill Honig out of the picture, the battle for State Supt. of Public Instruction is a wide open affair. Although this is a non-partisan post, there are two well-known Demos already running: State Sen. Gary Hart of Santa Barbara and Assemblywoman Delaine Eastin of Fremont, both of whom chair the Education Cmt. in their respective Houses. Gov. Wilson's education adviser, Maureen DiMarco, is also a Demo, and she too is looking. On the GOP side, State Senators Becky Morgan of Los Altos and Marian Bergeson of Newport Beach are the two most prominent Republicans testing the waters. Also testing the waters is Peter G. Mehas, who was Gov. Deukmejian's education adviser. Stay tuned...

COUNCILMAN WACHS AT CURRENT AFFAIRS FORUM.

L.A. Councilman and mayoral candidate Joel Wachs will discuss his campaign for mayor when the L.A. Current Affairs Forum holds its monthly meeting Feb. 23. Reception 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m., Kawada Hotel, L.A. For info & RSVPs, call Emma Schafer at (310)445-8862...

CALPEEK'S ETCETERA: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.
Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

- **Cellular Phone Search** - A big bucks job has opened up in Sacto to head a new trade association for the cellular phone industry. Although he says he's not interested in the job, CALPEEK sources say State Sen. Art Torres(D-L.A.) is the leading contender for the job, which pays \$200-Gs per year. Torres says our sources have the wrong number. There are other contenders for this job, so it's possible Torres will take a pass...

- **Rumor Dept.** - CALPEEK sources say that 3-time losing Demo candidate Patti Garamendi is under consideration to become Director of the Peace Corps. If that should happen, sources indicate that husband and State Insurance Commissioner John WOULD follow Patti to D.C. and take a job in the Clinton Admin. Remember, both John and Patti were Peace Corps members in their younger days...

- **Rough Times** - About 88 news/editorial personnel at the Los Angeles Times have left the newspaper or are about to leave. It's all part of a restructuring and buy-out plan by LAT management. Some solid reporters and desk editors are among those leaving. Sources tell CALPEEK that morale is on the floor. And the Newspaper Guild is trying to organize those that are still there...

- **More Californians Join Clinton Team** - Walter Zelman and Tom Epstein have left the service of State Insurance Comm. John Garamendi to join the White House staff. Zelman is now a consultant working with Hillary Clinton on health care reform, while Epstein is working with Rahm Emanuel, WH political director. In the meantime, campaign consultant/attorney Darry Sragow has taken over for Epstein in L.A. as the deputy commissioner for Consumer Protection & Communications...

- **Going Against the Trend** - As most CALPEEK readers are aware, Gov. Wilson and the State Legislature are trying to cut back the size of government by eliminating a number of commissions and agencies. On the cutting block is the State's Energy Commission. But then along comes State Sen. Herschel Rosenthal(D-L.A.) and his SB 142 --- which doesn't eliminate the commission, but instead adds two more members at \$92,000 each.

One commissioner would be appointed by the Speaker and the other by the Senate President. Neither appointment require legislative confirmation. And Rosenthal wonders why he lost to Tom Hayden. Stay tuned...

THE OTHER MAYOR'S RACE: CITY OF COMPTON.
Los Angeles isn't the only city in L.A. County which is having an election for mayor. Compton, which was incorporated in 1888, will elect a new mayor on April 20th...

...There are five candidates, but only 3 are considered serious contenders: Councilman Omar Bradley, Councilwoman Patricia Moore, and Kenneth Tucker, brother of the former mayor, now U.S. Rep. Walter Tucker III. The other contenders are businessman John Clark and community activist Kellie Irving...

...Economic development, crime and a new card club are the HOT ticket issues in this race. Bradley was one of 3 councilmembers who voted YES on allowing a new card club to operate, and thus faces a possible recall. Moore abstained. The club will bring in lots of revenue and will create new jobs, but there is opposition. How much is difficult to say, because there are some who say most Compton residents don't really care. As for crime, Compton was the *murder capital* of the U.S. in 1992...

...Is there a favorite? Bradley, Moore and Tucker all have pretty good name ID. Outside of Compton, Moore is best known for her attempt to oust L.A. Co. Sup. Ct. Judge Joyce Karlin because of the judge's controversial ruling in the shooting death of a Black teenager by a Korean grocer. And both Moore and Bradley ran against Walter Tucker two years ago when he ran for mayor to replace his father, who died after a long fight with cancer. As for Kenneth Tucker, he's never held public office before, but with help from his brother and his allies, some think he may have a very slight edge in this race. Stay tuned...

WORKERS' COMP SUBJECT FOR GARAMENDI SPEECH.
State Insurance Comm. John Garamendi(D) will address the Valley Industry & Commerce Assn.(VICA) from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Feb. 25, Sportsmen's Lodge in Studio City. Garamendi will discuss workers' comp and health care insurance. For info (818)888-9337...

L.A. MUNIELECTIONS: CITY COUNCIL BATTLES.

Editor's note: This week CALPEEK looks at the battle in the OPEN 7th district - now represented by retiring Councilman Ernani Bernardi. We'll also revisit some of the other races with odds & ends...

...The 7th district was redrawn to give it a huge Hispanic population. 70% of the district is Hispanic --- but guess what? Only 31% are registered to vote and most of these voters will stay home if past history repeats itself. If an Hispanic candidate were to win, that person would join Councilmembers Richard Alatorre and Mike Hernandez on the council. And in this field of 12 candidates, three of the leading contenders are Hispanic -- some with solid connections and clout. Ray Magana used to work for Bernardi and is leading the pack in fundraising. He has hired consultant Allan Hoffenblum. Another well-known Hispanic is Richard Alarcon, L.A. Mayor Tom Bradley's Valley deputy. Alarcon has hired Marathon Communications. The other leading Hispanic contender is Rose Castaneda, an aide to U.S. Rep. Howard Berman. A number of Berman operatives are working this campaign, including Michael Berman, who is doing the targeting; Marc Litchman is doing mail; and Charlotte Dobbs is doing fundraising...

...Among the non-Hispanics, L.A. Fire Capt. Lyle Hall, who ran against Bernardi last time, is probably the best known. He has hired Cerrell Associates. Another candidate with name ID is Anne Finn, wife of the late Councilman Howard Finn. Finn used to represent about 70% of this area. She has hired consultant Rick Taylor. And then there is Albert Dib, a retired businessman and close friend of Councilman Hal Bernson. Dib has hired Campaign Management, Inc. to run his campaign. At this point, there is no favorite and race is wide open...

- Odds & Ends...5th District incumbent Zev Yaroslavsky has hired consultant Kevin Acebo to handle the daily management of his campaign. Berkeley-based Evans-McDonough are helping Zev's chief rival, Laura Lake. So is fundraising whiz John Plaxco...1st District incumbent Mike Hernandez has hired consultant Victor Griego for daily management, while D.C.-based Ross Bates will handle mail...15th District challenger/L.A. School Board member Warren Furutani has hired an interesting pair of consultants. He's hired Richie Ross of Sacto and Leslie Winner of L.A. It's the first time they've worked together on a campaign. Tony Ricasa will do daily mgt. and Nakatomi & Assoc. will handle fundraising...11th

District challenger Dan Pritikin has hired consultant Ron Smith to handle mail and do overall consulting...13th District - correction from last week. The Stonewall Demo Club endorsed all 3 gay candidates for this OPEN seat - Jackie Goldberg, Michael Weinstein and Conrado Terrazas. Stay tuned...

L.A. MAYOR'S RACE: CANDIDATE DEBATE SCHEDULE

Editor's note: Want to see the leading contenders for L.A. Mayor debate the issues? Here's a list of events that are open to the public for the rest of February...

...Feb. 18, Westside Demo Club, community room, Westside Pavilion, 7:30 p.m. --- Feb. 25, Brentwood Homeowners Assn., University Synagogue, 11960 Sunset Blvd., Brentwood, 7:30 p.m. --- Feb. 27, First AME Church, 2270 S. Harvard Blvd., L.A., 12 noon --- Feb. 28, Park LaBrea Community Center, 340 S. Hauser Blvd., L.A., 12 noon. There are other events, but these are the ones which are OPEN. Stay tuned...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- The Sacto office of Stoorza, Ziegus & Metzger has been awarded the 1992 IABC Crystal Award for best overall communications program for its client MacMillan Bloedel, a Canadian forest products firm...
- Robert Wickers has been named a partner in the NY-based campaign consulting firm of Dresner, Sykes, et al. The NY firm also has moved to 52 Griffin Ave., Bedford Hills, NY 10507. New phone is (914)241-9244. Wickers is based in San Carlos, CA...
- Orange Co.-based pa/political consulting firm of Ellis/Hart Associates has opened a Capital office at 1121 "L" Street, Ste. 809, Sacramento, CA 95814. Phone number is (916)443-2145...
- U.S. Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon(R-Santa Clarita) has been elected president of GOP freshman congressmembers...
- Suzanne M. Fisher, who served in the Deukmejian Admin. and also in the Bush Admin., has opened Diversified Executives Services, 8375 Stevenson Street, Sacramento, CA 95828. (916)682-1407. The firm specializes in conference planning and pr...